

The Examiner has restricted the above-captioned application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following six claim groups:

Group I: claims 1-8, drawn to a method of treating a surface;

Group II: claim 9-16, drawn to a method of inhibiting growth of a microorganism;

Group III: claims 17-20 and 23-26, drawn to a kit;

Group IV: claims 21-22 and 30-33, drawn to composition and strains;

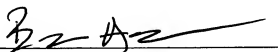
Group V: claims 27-29, drawn to a method of selection; and

Group VI: claims 34-35 drawn to a method of treating food.

In light of the Examiner's restriction, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I, encompassing claims 1-8, for prosecution in the above-captioned application. The elected claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Passage of the above-captioned application to issuance is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional amounts as necessary, or to credit any overpayments, to our Deposit Account No. 10-0435, with reference to our matter number 31725-77991.

Respectfully submitted,



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